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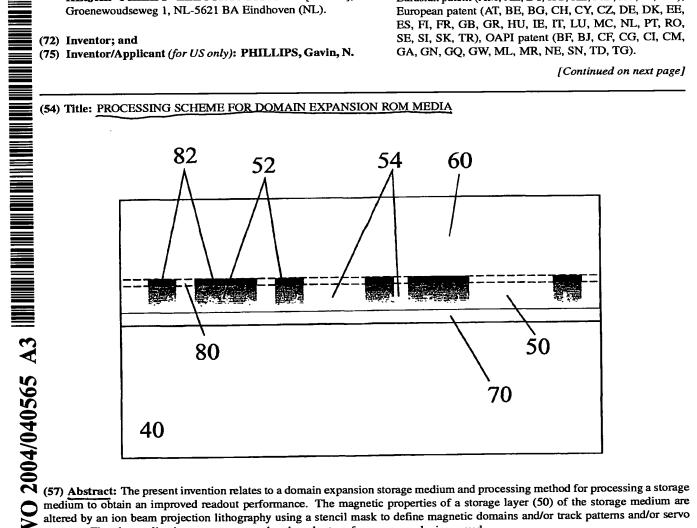
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medium to obtain an improved readout performance. The magnetic properties of a storage layer (50) of the storage medium are altered by an ion beam projection lithography using a stencil mask to define magnetic domains and/or track patterns and/or servo patterns. Thereby, replication accuracy, speed and readout performance can be improved.

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